

Application No.
09/508,826
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 16 and corresponding computer program claim 21 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of canceled claims 17 and 18; and claim 22 and corresponding computer program claim 25 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of canceled claims 23 and 24.

No new matter has been added, and no new issues with respect to patentability have been raised. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 16, 21, 22 and 25 be approved and entered under 37 CFR 1.116.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 16 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 5,559,961 ("Blonder"); and claims 17-20 and 22-25 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of various combinations of Blonder with previously cited Windows 95 for Dummies, Working in Windows 95, Programming in Windows 95, Fileguard 3.2, Programming in Windows 3.1, and How to Make a Windows Screen Saver in Delphi. These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed.

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According to the present invention as recited in amended claim 16 (and in corresponding amended claim 21), a checking device is provided which comprises, in particular, registered data storage means for storing location data of a registered checking point set to the check image, wherein the location data represents relative coordinates of the checking point with respect to an origin of the check image. Detection means is provided for detecting relative coordinates of the designated point on the check image displayed on the display screen based on the preset location of the display coordinates, from the coordinates attained by the attaining means. And update means for updating the display coordinates location, which determines where the check image is displayed, such that the location at which the check image is displayed is altered, wherein when no designation is made by the operator on the display screen on which the check image is displayed, the display location of the check image is periodically altered.

With this structure, as pointed out in the Amendment filed March 29, 2004, the determination of whether the location of the point designated by an operator with respect to a check image corresponds to a pre-registered point is based on coordinates which are relative to the display location of the check image. Therefore, the determination is not based on absolute coordinates with respect to the display screen. Thus, the display location

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of the check image on the display screen is determined as the base, and relative coordinates of the pre-registered point are determined based on the position of the check image. The point designated by the operator is checked based on its position relative to the registered coordinates on the displayed check image. And therefore, regardless of where on the display screen the base display location of the check image is set, the point designated by the operator can be accurately detected.

With this structure, moreover, it is possible to update the display coordinates location, such that the location of the check image is altered. Thus, the check image is not always displayed at a same location, and the same coordinates on the display screen are not always used to check the operator. As a result, checking of the operator can be more securely performed.

By contrast, as pointed out in the Amendment filed March 29, 2004, Blonder merely discloses determining whether a position designated by an operator on a system of display coordinates corresponds to a position on the display coordinates pre-registered with respect to a check image. This determination is performed based on whether the absolute positions on the display screen of the position designated by the operator and the pre-determined position correspond to each other. And it is again respectfully submitted that Blonder does not at all disclose, teach or suggest checking an operator based on relative

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coordinates so as to allow the location of the check image can be updated.

Indeed, on page 4 of the Office Action the Examiner acknowledges that Blonder does not disclose updating the location of a check image. For this reason, the Examiner has cited Windows 95 for Dummies to supply the missing teach of Blonder.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that Windows 95 for Dummies merely discloses that the display position of a window in a display screen can be changed. And it is respectfully submitted that Windows 95 for Dummies does not disclose, teach or suggest updating the position of a check image, whereby the check image is used to check an operator based on relative coordinates of the checking point with respect to an origin of the check image, in the manner of the present invention as recited in amended claim 16 and corresponding claim 21.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges that Blonder does not disclose the feature of the present invention previously recited in claim 18, and now recited in claims 16 and 21, whereby when no designation is made by the operator on the display screen on which the check image is displayed, the display location of the check image is periodically altered. However, in making this acknowledgment, the Examiner explains "Not specifically taught is to use a screen saver to move images on the screen after a period of user

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inactivity" (emphasis added). Therefore, the Examiner has cited Working in Windows 95 for the disclosure of a screen saver.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that the feature of the present invention whereby the display location of the check image is periodically altered clearly does not at all correspond to a screen saver.

According to the present invention as recited in claim 16 (and corresponding claim 21), the location of the check image is altered to change the coordinates on the display screen used to check the operator. That is, the location of the check image is altered and the check image may still be used to check an operator, based on its new position. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the check image clearly does not at all correspond to a simple moving image in a screen saver. And it is respectfully submitted that Working in Windows 95 does not at all disclose, teach or suggest this feature of the present invention as recited in claim 16 and corresponding claim 21, whereby when no designation is made by the operator on the display screen on which the check image is displayed, the display location of the check image is periodically altered.

With respect to independent claim 22 (and corresponding claim 25), moreover, the Examiner acknowledges on page 5 of the Office Action that Blonder does not disclose the feature of the present invention whereby the checking device comprises

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comparison means for comparing (i) a ratio between the relative coordinates of the designated point detected by the detection means and the display size of the check image with (ii) a ratio between the relative coordinates of the registered checking point and the display size of the check image, and check control means for determining that the operator is authorized to use the apparatus when a difference between the two ratios is within an allowable range. For this reason, the Examiner has cited Programming in Windows 3.1 to supply the missing teachings of Blonder. Moreover, the Examiner has cited Windows 95 for Dummies to supply the teaching missing from Blonder whereby update means update the display size of the check image, such that the display size of the check image is altered, as was previously recited in claim 23, and is now recited in claims 22 and 25. And the Examiner has also cited How to Make a Windows Screen Saver in Delphi to supply the missing teach of Blonder whereby when no designation is made by the operator on the display screen on which the check image is displayed, the display size of the check image is periodically altered, as now recited in claims 22 and 25.

It is respectfully pointed out, however, that Programming in Windows 3.1 merely discloses adjusting a coordinate system to correspond to the number of pixels displayed on a display device. It is respectfully submitted, moreover, Windows 95 for Dummies,

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merely discloses that a window size can be changed. And it is respectfully submitted that How to Make a Windows Screen Saver in Delphi merely discloses a screen saver in which an image is resized.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest comparing: (i) a ratio between the detected relative coordinates of the designated point and the display size of the check image with (ii) a ratio between the relative coordinates of the registered checking point and the display size of the check image. That is, it is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest that relative coordinates of a designated point are used in checking an operator such that a check image, and not a simple screen saver image, can be resized and still used as the check image, in the manner of the present invention as recited in claims 22 and 25.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 16, 21, 22 and 25, and claims 19 and 20 depending from claim 16, all patentably distinguish over Blonder, taken singly or in combination with any of Windows 95 for Dummies, Working in Windows 95, Programming in Windows 95, Fileguard 3.2, Programming in Windows 3.1, and How to Make a Windows Screen Saver in Delphi, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.


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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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